

DISTRICT'S HISTORY IS BOUND UP WITH LITTLE STONE HUT

Spring House Presented To
Government Dates Back
a Century.

GIFT TO PEOPLE OF
LOUIS P. SHOEMAKER

Pierce Mill Relic in Rock Creek
Park Is One of Few Remain-
ing Reminders of Pioneers.

The little stone spring house in Rock Creek Park, just dedicated to the Government by Louis P. Shoemaker, is intimately connected with the entire history of Washington, and, until its transfer to the United States, belonged to a family which has figured in the development of the city since its foundation.

A plain little hut of rough native stone, the Pierce mill spring house is one of the few remaining monuments to the pioneers who came to this section before Washington was. Nestling among the woods adjacent to Rock Creek Park it still retains much of the rustic simplicity and unadorned which characterized its surroundings at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and, since the great natural park in which it is located is always to retain as much of its natural beauty as it is possible to preserve, the spring house is likely to stand through several centuries to come.

Isaac Pierce came down from Pennsylvania and settled in what is now Rock Creek Park in 1744 and then built the Pierce mill and other stone buildings near the mill, including the family residence. His son, Abner, later acquired about 2,000 acres of land about the place.

When House Was Built.

The spring house was built by him in 1791 and he commemorated the fact by engraving on a soapstone block, which forms a part of the masonry, the date and the letters, B. L. P. According to Louis P. Shoemaker, the present executor of the estate, these initials stand for Betty and Isaac Pierce.

Mr. Pierce's wife's name was Elizabeth, shortened, of course, to Betty, and he sought in this way to associate her name with one of the earliest improvements of what was then decided upon the Capital of the new republic. The city was laid out only one year before this.

At the time of Abner's death, he devised the whole estate of 2,000 acres to his nephew, Pierce Shoemaker, father of Louis P., who has donated the spring house, Francis D. Shoemaker, Mrs. Abigail C. Newmyer, and Mrs. Clara A. Newman, all of whom are residents of this city.

Louis P. Shoemaker was made executor and trustee, under the will. The Shoemaker family has thus been identified with the city from the earliest days. Louis P. Shoemaker's father and grandfather and mother and grandmother were born in the District. His mother was the daughter of Louis Carberry, for many years surveyor of the District, and his uncle, Thomas Carberry, was for several years mayor of the city of Washington. He was also founder of St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum. The Washington Asylum for Foundlings was founded by Joseph Pierce, son of Abner Pierce, who died in 1850.

Original Dwelling Removed.

The original Pierce dwelling was removed in 1875. In 1890 Mr. Shoemaker sold 250 acres of the family property to the United States to form a part of Rock Creek Park. The portion sold embraced one of the most picturesque parts of the park, including the valley north from Pierce mill to the Military road. It is now penetrated by the beautiful Belvoir, founded by Joshua B. Pierce, and the subdivision known as Azalea, between the park and Connecticut avenue, has been sold out to individuals, and the subdivision known as Azalea, between the park and Connecticut avenue, has been sold out to individuals, and the subdivision known as Azalea, between the park and Connecticut avenue, has been sold out to individuals.

Not far from the spring house, one may now find a large collection of rare trees which were planted by Pierce Shoemaker. Two trees were planted by Isaac Pierce, who brought them down from Pennsylvania in his saddle bags long before the day of railroads. One is a large shellbark and the other a white pine. The white pine is a native of Pennsylvania, and this one is supposed to be the first ever grown in the District of Columbia. These trees are now unidentified, but Mr. Shoemaker is considering the advisability of marking them with proper inscriptions and presenting them with some of the ground about them to the Government.

The original patents of the land issued in 1844 by the chancellor, representing the British authority, in this country at that time, are in the possession of Mr. Shoemaker and in a good state of preservation.

Treasury Employee Builds His Own Home

One of the interesting houses just completed in Chevy Chase is the new home of Peter J. Conard, at 206 Raymond street. Mr. Conard, who is employed at night in the Treasury Department, has spent part of his daylight hours when he is off duty, to build his home. He acquired a lot 70 by 208 feet in site on Raymond street and commenced work upon a concrete block structure, which is now completed. Probably there is not another example of such enterprise in the District, from which Mr. Conard has resulted in giving him a home which he now values at \$14,000.

The house is two stories and attic in height, with a central entrance, and is surrounded on two sides by wide porches. The design is simple, but attractive and gives an impression of great solidity. Mr. Conard is proud of his achievement.

Twenty-two Lots Sold In New Subdivision

Oscar C. Brothers, Jr., reports today that he has sold twenty-two lots in his new subdivision, Fairview, during the week. Deeds for the Fairview tract were returned from Europe this week and were placed on record. The American Security and Trust Company is the trustee for the Christy estate from which Mr. Brothers purchased the property.

New Real Estate Firm Reports First Sale

Harry V. Boule & Co., a new realty firm, reports its first sale today. Max Rosenblum and W. Utman bought from D. G. Carpenter, the corner house at 1202 East Capitol street, facing Lincoln Park, for \$6,000. The new owners will remodel the building for business purposes.

Buildings of Interest in the Realty News of the Week-View of Old Pierce Spring House

Concrete Block House Built by Government Employee for Himself in Chevy Chase.

The New Hendrick Building on Fifteenth Street, Between New York Avenue and H Street.



TWO DOWNTOWN STRUCTURES ARE ALMOST FINISHED

Hendrick and Lewis Johnson
Buildings Nearing
Completion.

The new buildings near the northwest corner of New York and Pennsylvania avenues and Fifteenth street are nearing completion. They are the new Hendrick building, while not a newly constructed one, has been so extensively rebuilt from what was the old Washington Herald building, that it is practically a new structure. This property is owned by J. Thilman Hendrick and Clarence Norment. They have made out of the old building a modern office structure of attractive appearance, and with interior arrangements affording unusually large office rooms. Mr. Hendrick is to occupy one of the suites, moving his offices from their present location on Fourteenth street. The new Hendrick building, which is a two-story dwelling at 11 O street northeast, is owned by Mrs. S. E. Henry. The new owner will occupy the house. For Mrs. Henry the firm sold the two-story dwelling at 11 O street northeast for \$4,800.

Reese Murray bought from Miss Bertha L. Schaper the two-story dwelling at 1323 Georgia avenue northwest for \$4,000 as an investment. The house is the last of a row of five, all of which have been sold by Gardner & Dent. The firm also has sold for Charles J. Walker the new six-room dwelling at 74 Park road northwest for \$4,500. The buyer will occupy it.

Four Residences Sold By Gardner & Dent

Four residence sales are reported today by Gardner & Dent. Mrs. Marie R. Oates purchased from Mrs. S. E. Henry the three-story, nine-room dwelling at 1133 Fairmont street northwest for \$7,500. The new owner will occupy the house. For Mrs. Oates the firm sold the two-story dwelling at 11 O street northeast for \$4,800.

Several Sales Made At Chillum Castle Heights

Several sales of property in the new suburban subdivision of Chillum Castle Heights are reported today by Theo. J. Morgan, of the Washington Land and Mortgage Company, owners of the property. Judge Harry D. Perkins, of Parkersburg, W. Va., has purchased a lot at the corner of Nicholson street and Blair road, and has contracted for a two-story, eight-room house, to be built at once. John W. Honey has purchased two lots at Blair road and Jefferson street, and will have a house built. Other purchasers of lots are Mrs. Elizabeth Walters, Major Frank de L. Carrington, U. S. A., retired, and Mrs. Louise Locke. Mrs. Locke bought 8,365 square feet at the corner of North Capitol street and New Hampshire avenue.

James Sharp, Purchaser Of Thompson Property

James Sharp is the purchaser of the Thompson property on the south side of G street between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets, the sale of which was announced last week. The property was transferred yesterday from the intermediary holder, Edward G. Perry, to Mr. Sharp. The purchaser is a well-known local investor in real estate, having recently sold the Kenia building at Twelfth and G streets, and other large downtown properties. He paid \$250,000 for the Thompson property.

July Fire Losses Are Near Hundred Thousand

Fire losses in the District during the month of July are estimated to have been \$75,000, according to the monthly report of Chief Wagner of the Fire Department, submitted to the Commissioners today. The losses were covered by an insurance of \$118,000. The number of alarms received was seventy-nine. Only two fires occurred, which necessitated the sounding of additional alarms.



Old Pierce Mill Spring House Adjoining Rock Creek Park, Dedicated to Government by Louis P. Shoemaker.

Week's Realty Transfers in the District

Northwest.
Tunlaw road northwest—James S. English et al. to William M. Ellison, trustee, lots 377 and 378, square 1301, \$2,500.
Upper Water street northwest, between Twenty-first and Twenty-second streets—Richard A. Ford to Clarence H. Conger, lot 24, square 84, \$10.
Tunlaw road northwest—Michael C. Weaver et al. to Mary A. and Jane C. Cassidy, lot 28, square 1300, \$10.
Thirty-sixth street, between Prospect and N streets—Mary T. McD. Milstead, to the president and directors of Georgetown College, part lots 46 and 47, square 122, \$10.
M street northwest, between Twentieth and Twenty-first streets—Katherine M. Keleher et al. to Mary A. and Jane C. Cassidy, part lot 24, square 100, \$10.
318 P street northwest—Ella Fabre to Mary A. and Katherine M. Keleher, part square 125, \$10.
Sixteenth street northwest, between P and Q streets—Union Trust Company, trustee, et al. to Joseph W. Bailey, part lot 48, square 180, \$10.
Observatory place, between Benton and W streets—International Realty and Development Company to Ellen A. Bray, lot 322, square 120, \$10.
1718 Thirteenth street northwest—Francis J. Lukens et al. to Bertha M. Davis, lot 99, square 230, \$10.
Twenty-ninth street northwest, between N street and Dumbarton avenue—Mary T. L. Milstead to Mary Kate McDaniel, part lot 12, square 124, \$1,500.
1306 S street northwest—Michael E. Pairo et al. to Alexander Lewis, one-half interest in lot 28, square 229, \$10.
P street northwest, between Thirtieth and Thirty-first streets—Henry W. Offutt et al. to John C. Ronayne, part lot 23, square 74, \$10.
1229 O street northwest—George Y. Worthington et al. to Clara B. Etchison, lot 90, square 195, \$10.
Thirty-sixth and M streets northwest—Capital Traction Company to Great Falls and Old Dominion Railroad Company, lot 25, square 1202, \$10.
Thirtieth street northwest, between L street and Massachusetts avenue—Catherine L. Sheehan to Addie A. Davis, part lot 18, square 347, \$10.
L street northwest, between Twentieth and Twenty-first streets—Peter A. Drury, trustee, to John C. Ronayne, part lot 23, square 74, \$10.
Q street northwest, between Sixth and Seventh streets—William G. Thomas et al. to Hannah Levy, lot 117, square 44, \$10.
226 Eleventh street northwest—Pamela M. Reynolds et al. to Agostino Dispensa and Joseph Rodando, part lot 34, square 302, \$10.
Rear of L street northwest, between North Capitol and First streets—Anna O. Stewart et al. to Benjamin Garrett, part lot 27, square 621, \$10.
Wisconsin avenue and Q street northwest—Frank L. Ash et al. to George N. Ash, part lot 21, square 1280, \$10.
H street northwest, between Nineteenth and Twentieth streets—George W. Linkins and George R. Linkins, trustees, to Mary L. Duane, lot 18, square 119, \$5,000.
Sixth and H streets northwest—Mary A. Davis et al. to George L. V. Baum, part lots 25, 26, and 27, square 84, \$10.
1507 Wisconsin avenue northwest—Fred L. Siddons and J. A. Mabel, trustees, to Charles E. Payne and Robert T. McMullen, part lot 16, square 1271, \$1,000.
40 M street southwest—Charles E. Robinson and C. R. Calvin, trustees, to Charles Martin, part lot 22, square 514, \$4,000.
1027 Wisconsin avenue northwest—Charles E. Payne et al. to Robert T. McMullen, part lot 15, square 1271, \$10.
229 G street northwest—Edward A. Macomber et al. to Henry S. Mott, half interest in lot 18, square 160, \$10.
127 Wisconsin avenue northwest—Charles E. Behrend, executor, to Karl Achterkirchen, lot 21, square 265, \$1,500.
1419 Eighth street northwest—Same to same, lot 21, square 417, \$10.
1310 to 1320 G street northwest—Edward G. Perry to James Sharp, lots 20 and 21, square 253, \$10.

Southeast.
Kentucky and South Carolina avenues southeast—William Murphy et al. to Ewing H. Wine, lot 2, square 1053, \$10.
Fourteenth street southeast, between E and G streets—Rudolph Saur et al. to Hannah Driscoll, lot 77, square 1008, \$10.
Third street southeast, between East Capitol and A streets—Catherine J. Bell to James Berry, part lot 8, square 75, \$10.
Thirteenth street southeast, between E and G streets—James D. Burns et al. to Edgar J. Huise, lot 192, square 1015, \$10.
520 North Carolina avenue southeast—Benjamin W. Clarke et al. to Roger T. Mitchell, lot 24, square 942, \$10.
D street southeast, between Third and Fourth streets—James D. Burns et al. to Dennis J. O'Connor, part lot 23, square 792, \$10.
East Capitol street, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth streets—Christine Bloss to Edgar J. Huise, part lots 4 and 5, square 1070; part lot 49, square 1070, \$10.
Third street southeast, between E and F streets—Mannie E. Norment to John J. Hane and Catherine M. Hane, lot 72, square 785, \$10.
Fourth street southeast, near O street—Arthur J. Richards et al. to Kate E. Hammer, lot 115, square 792, \$10.
Alley, between Sixth and Seventh streets and G and H streets southeast—Mary H. Dets to Mary A. Harvey, lot 112, square 878, \$10.

Near-Urban.
Whitney Close—James K. Jones et al. to Harry E. and Henrietta Huntzberger, lot 27, block 11, \$10.
Cliffbrook—Howard B. Etchison et al. to Basil H. Etchison, lot 10, square 560, \$10.
Washington Heights—Harry S. Calvert, receiver, to A. Erskine Miller, lot 35, block 4, \$5,000.
City View Heights—Henry H. Guffy, trustee, et al. to Charles Bencowe, lot 69, square 412, \$10.
Rehoboth—Frank-Edith H. Gottwals to Charles E. and Cora Swihart, lot 101, block 3, \$10.
Pleasant Plains—Kennedy Brothers Inc. to Mary J. Langford, lot 128, square 200, \$10.
West Bloomingdale—Clara A. Anderson to Stephen, lot 49, block 1, \$10.
West Bloomingdale—Anton Stephan et al. to Clara A. Anderson and Herman M. Sherman, lot 49, block 1, \$10.
North Grounds of Columbian University—Edgar J. Huise et al. to James B. Burns, lot 69, block 29, \$10.
University Park—Alice L. Graham et al. to William D. Barry and Catherine C. Barry, lot 8, block 42, \$10.
Petworth—Robert L. Carr et al. to Edward J. Handy and Catherine E. Handy, lot 6, block 8, \$10.
Petworth—Athena E. Handy et al. to Robert L. Carr, lot 83, square 239, \$10.
Petworth Addition—John R. Halliell et al. to Ellen K. Gillette, lot 59, square 250, \$10.
Mt. Pleasant and Pleasant Plains—Rufus P. Clarke et al. to Central Presbyterian Church, part lot 52, \$1,800.
Petworth—James D. Risdon et al. to Almitra P. Livingston, lot 14, square 312, \$10.
Addition to Le Droit Park—Florence M. Roach to Mary L. Eaton, lot 64, block 24, \$10.
Dobbin's Addition—Alexander Miller et al. to John J. McCarthy and Hannah Irene Roach, lot 5, block 4, \$10.
Columbia Heights—John R. Lybrook to George E. Humphrey and George N. Palmer, lot 2, block 24, \$10.
1704 Kenney street northwest—Alberta M. Williams, lot 6, block 2, \$10.
Petworth Addition—Harry J. Smith et al. to Thomas E. Jarrell, lot 18, block 28, \$10.
Columbia Heights—H. M. Elizabeth Henry to Marie R. Oates, lot 65, block 25, \$10.
Schouten Park—Edith H. Gottwals to Catherine Watson, part lot 67, block 2, \$10.
Washington Heights—Harry L. Calvert, receiver, to Thomas E. Jarrell, lot 8, square 252, \$5,000.
Petworth Addition—Rufus Warren et al. to D. Darby Thompson, lot 18, square 229, \$10.
Cliffbrook—H. M. Etchison et al. to George Y. Worthington and George Y. Worthington, Jr., lot 82, block 3, \$10.
Mt. Pleasant and Pleasant Plains—Alonso O. Elles et al. to Edwin D. Behrend, part lot 31, \$10.
Dobbin's Addition—James Martin et al. to Mary G. Carumba, lot 51, square 200, \$10.
Ingleside—L. E. Breuninger et al. to Henry (Continued on Fifth Page.)

BUILDING ACTIVITY SHOWS BIG SLUMP IN RECENT WEEKS

Operations Fall Off Over
Half Million in Value
During July.

A slump of about \$500,000 in building operations begun in July from the amount reported for June, is shown by the July report of Morris Haecker, District inspector of buildings, which has been received by the Commissioners. The figures for July amount to almost exactly the same as they did for May. A total of \$1,471,226 is reported as the value of new buildings and repairs for which permits were issued during the past month. Of this amount about \$250,000 is shown as covering repairs.

In June, however, the permit for the new Riggs House at \$700,000 was issued, swelling the total greatly. In July permits for only two office buildings were issued for a total of \$280,000. The total number of brick buildings for which permits were issued was 154 against 157 in June, and 37 frame buildings against 51 in June. The record shows a dropping off all along the line.

Greater Capitol Heights Extolled in Booklet

O. B. Zantbinker has just issued an attractive booklet descriptive of Greater Capitol Heights, one of the new suburban subdivisions. The booklet is illustrated with half-tone engravings of views upon the property and about Washington. In connection with a profile plat at the end of the book Mr. Zantbinker makes the statement that "Greater Capitol Heights is the highest point in America east of the Capital of the United States. The property lies at the eastern edge of the District, and is already highly developed."

Big Crowd To Attend Odd Fellows' Reunion

Washington will take an important part in the Odd Fellows reunion at Pen Mar, Pa., August 10. Pennsylvania, Maryland, Washington, Virginia and West Virginia will be represented. Representative George W. Norris of Nebraska will be the speaker of the day. He will accompany the Washington contingent on a special train. He is past grand master of the Odd Fellows of Nebraska. Canton Washington Lodge No. 1 will give a drill in fatigue uniform at the picnic. About 10,000 Odd Fellows are expected at Pen Mar, special trains being promised from Washington, Baltimore, two from New York, Harrisburg and Winchester. Two thousand will go from Baltimore.

Former Governor Warfield of Maryland will give an address, introduced by Col. Fred A. Groome, of Baltimore, and will preside at the afternoon ceremonies. Speakers will be guests of the order at the Blue Mountain House.

REALTY OPERATIONS SHOW FALLING OFF IN POINT OF SALES

First Week in August Does
Not Touch Business Re-
corded a Year Ago.

DAILY SALES JUMP
FROM HIGH TO LOW

Christy Estate and G Street Plat
Principal Deals of Fluctu-
ating Records.

Although showing improvement over the business of the previous week, the result of the operations of the realty brokers for the first week of August, 1911, shows a falling off from the figures for the corresponding week in 1910. This decline is noticeable both in the number of sales closed and in the amount of money borrowed on the security of real estate.

Great fluctuation was noted in the business of the week. No day recorded the lowest point of the year in the number of sales closed and on another day a total of forty-five sales were reported. The latter figure has been exceeded only three times in 1911. The low-water mark was the closing of only nine sales. Thirty-four sales were completed on another day, and the record for the remaining days was twenty-two, twenty-one, and twenty-two.

Nine more sales were consummated however this week than in the last week of July, bringing the total of closed sales for the past six days to 153. Included in this week's business was the closing of the purchase by Oscar C. Brothers, Jr., of Fairview, the former Christy estate in Anacostia, which he has subdivided and placed on the market. The title to the property was in the American Security and Trust Company, as trustee for the Christy heirs.

James Sharp, who is reported to have made more than one successful turn by speculating in G street property, is the purchaser of the Thompson property at 1310 to 1320 G street northwest, at \$250,000. The title has been held by Edward G. Perry, of the F. H. Smith Co., since the sale was made by court trustees. It was reported then that the name of the real purchaser was being withheld. Yesterday Perry conveyed the land, which is encumbered for \$200,000, to Sharp. It is expected \$200,000 will be expended on improvement of the property. The number of lots included in the week's business was 48. Of these, the Fairview sales brought the suburban subdivisions to 277, more than half the total of lots sold. The intermediate district ranked second with forty lots transferred. In the city proper, the northwest led with thirty-eight lots in its credit. There were twenty-eight lots conveyed in the northeast; thirteen in the southwest, and twelve in the southeast.

The money market this week is slightly in excess of \$500,000, and exceeds the previous week's business by \$50,000. The total of loans for the last six days was \$535,356.48. This sum was borrowed on the security of 160 lots at an average interest rate of 5.5 per cent.

Straight loans comprise the greater part of the business for the week with a total of \$38,720. The sum of all the notes given for deferred purchase money was \$125,975.48. The building association put out \$67,700.

The bulk of the money was borrowed on the security of county property aggregating \$30,320.48. Owners of land in the northwest got \$107,720. The record of loans in the other city sections was southwest, \$42,600; northeast, \$37,480; and southeast, \$21,675.

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55 Bushels Large Coke, delivered... \$4.50
60 Bushels Large Coke, delivered... \$4.75

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